Sigebert, King of England, 530 years after our Saviour's incarnation But whensoever or *by* whomsoever first erected, most certainly true it is, for the antiquity and worthiness thereof the University of Cambridge may at this time worthily contend with the most ancient and flourishing cities of the world

i$tb December A BOY SEIZED TO BE A PLAYER

Three years since Mr Nathaniel Giles, that is master of the Children of the Chapel Royal was by her Majesty's letters patent authorised to take up children in cathedrals, churches and chapels for the Queen's better service, but since he hath confederated with Henry Evans and a certain James Robinson in maintaining the playhouse in the Blackfriars, they have taken divers children from schools and apprentices from their masters solely to be employed in their interludes, such as one Nathan Field, scholar of the grammar school in London, kept by Mr Mulcaster, Salmon Pavy apprentice to one Peerce, and four others Two days ago under colour of their commission Evans and Robinson laid hands upon a boy named Thomas Clifton, the son of Henry Chfton, Esquire, as he walking from his house near Great St Bartholemews to the grammar school in Christchurch, and dragged him away to the playhouse When the father heard of it he went to the playhouse and there finding Giles, Evans and Robinson, and his son in their violent custody, he makes request to have his son released, which they refused to do Whereupon he said that if he should complain unto some of the Council they would hardly answer it, to which they answered that he might complain to whom he

would, and they would answer it, adding further that if the
Queen would not bear them forth in the action, she should get
another to execute her commission for them When further
the father declared that it was not fit that a gentleman of his
sort should have his only son and heir to be so basely used, they
replied that they had authority sufficient to take any nobleman's
son in this land, and further to despite the father they de-
livered a scroll of paper, containing the part of one of their plays
to the boy and commanded him to learn the same by heart, and
delivered him into the custody of Evans, saying further that if